

# **TEXAS**

The Afterschool Investments project is developing profiles for each state to provide a snapshot of the "state of afterschool," as well as an opportunity to compare afterschool activities across the country. This profile provides key data and descriptions of the afterschool landscape, which includes a range of out-of-school time programming that can occur before and afterschool, on weekends, and during summer months. It is designed to serve as a resource for policymakers, administrators, and providers.

### Statewide Initiatives

- ▶ Texas Afterschool Network. In the fall of 2001, afterschool stakeholders from across the state, including providers, advocates, and state agency representatives, began meeting to discuss the needs of Texas children and the future of afterschool in the state. The group developed four sub-committees—research, quality, resources and sustainability, and public awareness and advocacy—to help them reach their goal of afterschool for all children in the state of Texas. In January 2002, group members solidified a mission statement and formally named themselves the Texas Afterschool Network. One key challenge for this group is to improve coordination of existing afterschool funding streams. In 2003, they identified five primary goals and subsequent objectives to network the state's afterschool stakeholders and train 10 regional representatives to connect afterschool information, programs, and people in Texas communities.
- Local Workforce Development Boards. Texas administers its CCDF activities and services through 28 Local Workforce Development Boards (LWDB) under contract with the Texas Workforce Commission. The Commission establishes annual allocations and performance targets for child care services, which are incorporated into each LWDB's contract. In addition, Texas is one of only a few states that use private, donated funds (which are secured at the LWDB level) to meet a part of their matching requirement of the Child Care and Development Fund. In addition, 14 LWDBs have local match contracts for afterschool child-care with a total of 24 independent school districts across the state,

# **Quick Facts**

### **Demographics**

Total population: .....20,851,820

Number of children
ages 5-12: ......2,651,585

Percent of population: ......13%

Percent of students eligible
for free and reduced-price
lunch: ......45.4%

Percent of K-12 students in Title I
"Schoolwide" schools: ....50.5%

For more demographic information, visit http://www.nccic.org/statedata/statepro/texas.html.

# Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF)

 CCDF Administrative Overview

Administering agency:
Texas Workforce Commission

Total estimated FFY03 federal and state CCDF funds: \$499,399,894

FFY03 total federal share: .....\$383,129,972 FFY03 state MOE plus match: .....\$116,269,922

School-Age & Resource and Referral Earmark: ....\$1,745,350

FFY02 Total Quality Expenditures: ......\$49,915,189

Percent of children receiving CCDF subsidies who are ages 5-12: ......42.2%





including Austin, Dallas, and El Paso. For a list of participating LWDBs and school districts, contact the Texas Workforce Commission, http://www.twc.state.tx.us.

- > State-Funded Grant Programs. Texas has a number of state-funded afterschool programs, including the \$12.5 million (FY02) Middle School Afterschool Program, whose purpose is to engage students 10 to 14 years old in programs that increase academic achievement, reduce referrals to the juvenile justice system, and incorporate the involvement of parents and mentors as an integral program component. The Middle School Afterschool Initiative is currently funding 22 grants with 65 schools in combinations of district and charter campuses serving lowincome or low-performing middle school students in specifically identified zip code areas with high crime levels. In addition, the state devotes \$42 million to the 9th Grade Success Initiative that supports the development of special programs for ninth graders who may not earn or have not earned sufficient credits to be promoted to grade 10 and fail to meet minimum skill levels. Finally, the state funds the Optional Extended Year Program which provides students with additional instructional time to master the state's content standards and student performance standards. This program is currently funded at \$60 million.
- The Texas Afterschool Association (TAA). TAA, the Texas affiliate of the National AfterSchool Association (NAA), and its regional chapters across the state provide training and technical assistance to providers. TAA provides a network for afterschool professionals in Texas; coordinates training conferences, workshops, and information services for afterschool professionals; promotes NAA's Program Improvement and Accreditation system by providing a strong infrastructure of advisors, endorsers, and training related to the national standards; establishes professional development opportunities; and networks with school districts and youth agencies to expand programs and discuss curriculum issues.

For more information, see http://www.texasafterschool.org.

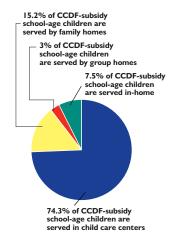
▶ Franchise Tax Credit. The major state tax bill of the 1999 Texas legislative session included a tax credit to corporations that contribute to an out-of-school time child care program for children ages 5 to 13 run by a nonprofit organization or a local government. Businesses can deduct 30 percent of their qualifying expenditures (totaling up to 50 percent of the tax otherwise due), which include facility construction, program equipment or supplies, and operating costs.

### **Notable Local Initiatives**

▶ Waco Lighted Schools. In 1994, the McLennan County Youth Collaboration, a consortium of youth-serving agencies and programs, began Waco's Lighted Schools program to combat crime, teenage pregnancy, and low academic achievement among middle school students in the city's most challenged neighborhoods. Approaches to public and private foundations as well as local government yielded start-up funding from a number of foundations, the federal Department of Justice, and the city of Waco's Community Block Grant funds. Lighted Schools developed community partnerships to provide volunteers and program support, then successfully campaigned for more funds from the city's Department of Parks and Recreation. Partnering with the Waco Independent School District helped Lighted Schools receive a renewable grant from the Texas Education Agency, and implementing standards and regulations made the program eligible for funding from the Texas Workforce Commission. Additional funding has been secured from the Child Care and Development Fund and the U.S. Department of Education's "Gear Up" and 21st Century

### Quick Facts (continued)

### Settings



### Uses of CCDF Earmarks and Quality Dollars for Afterschool

"Resource and referral and schoolage" earmark:

Funds may be used to expand the number of school-age care programs in local school districts and to provide supplies and equipment to these programs.

Other quality activities:

The quality earmark may be used to expand care in rural areas and to give enhanced rate reimbursements to those facilities that exceed minimum standards, including school age care providers.

### Provider Reimbursement Rates and Family Copayments

Label assigned by state for school-age rate category: ......School-age

Maximum rate for center-based school-age category: ......\$18.00/day

Notes: Rates vary by Local Workforce Development Areas. Rates for LWDA 28, which includes Houston/ Galveston, given.

Standardized monthly center-based school-age rate: .....\$290

Is "time in care" a factor in determining family copayment for school-age care? ......No

Notable Features of Rate System: Facilities that voluntarily exceed the state's regulatory standards in all areas (including health and safety and caregiver training) receive a 5% higher reimbursement rate through the Texas Rising Star (TRS) Provider Community Learning Centers grant programs as well as the USDA's Free and Reduced Price Meal Program. Lighted Schools is now a free, city-wide community learning program serving over 1,000 students.

Fort Worth Afterschool. The Fort Worth Independent School District (FWISD) serves over 80,000 students, 60 percent of whom are economically disadvantaged. Building on a history of providing afterschool programs in disadvantaged neighborhoods through the Weed and Seed program, the city partnered with the school district in 1999 to form the Task Force for Afterschool Programs. Due to the history of programs targeted at high-crime neighborhoods and the identification of potential crime prevention funding sources, task force representation also included Our City Our Children, Crime Prevention Resource Center, and Tarrant County Juvenile Services. After extensive research of best practices and needs assessments, programs began in the 2000-2001 school year. The city and the school district each contributed half of the \$2.2 million budget. The free program serves over 2,600 students daily (over 4,200 total) at 52 sites, with FWISD staff overseeing administrative program operations. Principals and parent advisory committees have the choice of employing approved organizations such as the YMCA or Communities in Schools to run programs or of using allocated funding to develop a self-managed program. Each program is required to offer homework help plus three of five activities: fine arts, sports and recreation, community service, character development and life skills, and academic enrichment. An outside evaluator conducts comprehensive annual reviews of the program to ensure accountability and sustained improvement.

# **Statewide Organizations**

National AfterSchool Association Affiliate:

Texas Afterschool Association (TAA) P.O. Box 302617

Austin, TX 78703 Phone: 512-663-9086

Web: http://www.texasafterschool.org

### Statewide Child Care Resource & Referral Network:

Texas Association of Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies

c/o Neighborhood Centers, Inc.

P.O. Box 271389 Houston, TX 77277 Phone: 713-669-5358

Web: http://www.taccrra.org

### Texas AfterSchool Network

P.O. Box 302617 Austin, TX 78703

### **Additional Resources**

State Child Care Administrators:

http://nccic.org/statedata/dirs/devfund.html

### State TANF Contacts:

http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ofa/hs\_dir2.htm

### 21st Century Community Learning Centers Contacts:

http://www.ed.gov/programs/21stcclc/contacts.html

### Quick Facts (continued)

Certification Program. Some Local Workforce Development Boards have established tiered rates that exceed 5%. Texas employs a child care rate structure based on a daily rate, but each Board sets its own rates.

### **Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and Child Care**

FFY02 state TANF transfer to CCDF:\$2,349,075
FFY02 TANF direct spending on child care:\$141,649

### **Program Licensing and** Accreditation Policies

Accreditation Policies
Are there separate school-age licensing standards?Yes
Are school-operated programs exempt from licensing standards?
Ratio of children to adults in school-age centers: 5 years24:1 6 years & up26:1
Number of National AfterSchool (NAA) Association accredited programs:19

### **21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC)**

FY02 state formula grant
amount:\$24,034,335
Applications funded:33
Program locations: Data not available
Licensing required?No

## **Notes and Sources**

### **Demographics**

Total population: Demographic Profiles: Census 2000, U.S. Census Bureau, as cited in State Child Care Profiles, National Child Care Information Center, available at: http://nccic.org/statedata/statepro/index.htm.

Number of children ages 5-12: Census 2000 Summary File (SF-3) Sample Data, Table P8, Sex by Age (79), U.S. Census Bureau.

Percent of students eligible for free and reduced-price lunch rate: Overview of Elementary and Secondary Schools and Districts: School Year 2001-02 (Table 10), National Center on Education Statistics, May 2003. Because data from School Year 2001-02 was unavailable for Wyoming, data from School Year 2000-01 was used. Data was unavailable for either school year for Arizona, Connecticut, and Tennessee.

Percent of K-12 students in Title I "schoolwide" schools: Overview of Elementary and Secondary Schools and Districts: School Year 2001-02 (Table 9), National Center on Education Statistics, May 2003. The federal Title I program provides funding to local school districts and schools with high percentages of poor children to help ensure that all children meet challenging state academic content and student academic achievement standards. Schools enrolling at least 40 percent of students from poor families are eligible to use Title I funds for schoolwide programs that serve all children in the school.

### **Child Care and Development Fund**

The Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) is the largest federal funding source for child care. States receive a funding allocation determined by formula and have broad flexibility to design programs that provide child care subsidies for low-income children under the age of 13 and to enhance the quality of child care for all children. Federal CCDF funding consists of mandatory, matching, and discretionary funds. Federal law requires that states spend at least 4 percent of their CCDF funds as well as additional earmarks on activities to improve the quality and availability of child care. CCDF administrative data in this and the following sections is from the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Child Care Bureau, as reported by States, unless otherwise noted.

FFY03 state MOE plus match: In order to receive Federal matching funds, a state must expend Maintenance of Effort funds. Note that this does not capture actual expenditures, only the minimum required to draw down all available federal funds.

FFY02 total quality expenditures: Many states spend more than the required minimum 4 percent on quality expansion activities. Note that this data includes FY02 funds expended for quality activities from each of the CCDF funding streams (mandatory, matching, and discretionary) and expenditures under earmarks for quality, infant and toddler, and school-age and resource and referral. This figure provides information obtained from state financial reports submitted for FY02. States continue to report on their expenditures of FY02 funds until expended; therefore, these numbers are subject to annual updates.

Uses of CCDF Earmarks and Quality Dollars for Afterschool: Portions of CCDF discretionary funds are earmarked specifically for resource and referral and school-age child care activities as well as for quality expansion. (These funds are in addition to the required 4 percent minimum quality expenditure.)

Maximum rate for school-age category: Rate listed applies to center-based care; where rates vary by region or county, the rate for the most populated urban area is given.

Standardized monthly school-age rate: Monthly rate for a child, age 8, in care after school during the school year at a center in the most costly district for four hours per day, 20 days per month. Calculated (in the lowest tier of a tiered system) using information from the FY2004-2005 State CCDF Plan, including rate structures, as submitted to the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Administration for Children and Families.

### **Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and Child Care**

In addition to spending TANF funds directly on child care, a state may transfer up to 30 percent of its TANF grant to CCDF. Expenditures represent TANF funds spent in FY02 that were awarded in FY02 and prior years. Data from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families.

### **Program Licensing and Accreditation Policies**

Ratio of children to adults in school-age setting: Data from National Resource Center for Health and Safety in Child Care, available at: http://nrc.uchsc.edu.

Number of NAA-accredited programs: Data from the National AfterSchool Association, April 2004, available at: http://www.nsaca.org/accredited.htm.

### 21st Century Community Learning Centers

The No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 converted the 21st Century Community Learning Centers' authority to a state formula grant. In past years, the U.S. Department of Education made competitive awards directly to school districts. Under the reauthorized law, funds will flow to states based on their share of Title I, Part A funds. States will use their allocations to make competitive awards to eligible entities. 1999, 2000, and 2001 grants will continue to be administered by and receive funding through the U.S. Department of Education.

FFY02 formula grant amount: Data from the U.S. Department of Education 21st Century Community Learning Centers Office. Available at: http://www.ed.gov/about/ overview/budget/statetables/04stbypr.xls.

Applications funded: Data from State Administration of the 21st Century Community Learning Centers Program. Compiled by Learning Point Associates, September 8, 2003.

In 2003, the Child Care Bureau awarded a three-year technical assistance contract to The Finance Project and their partner, the National Governors **Association Center for Best** Practices, for the Afterschool **Investments project. The goals** of the Afterschool Investments project include:

- Identifying ways that states and communities are using Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) subsidy and quality dollars to support out-of-school time programs, and sharing these practices and approaches with other states;
- Identifying administrative and implementation issues related to CCDF investments in out-of-school time programs, and providing information and context (about barriers, problems, opportunities) as well as practical tools that will help CCDF administrators make decisions: and
- Identifying other major programs and sectors that are potential partners for CCDF in supporting out-of-school time programs and providing models, strategies, and tools for coordination with other programs and sectors.

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The Afterschool Investments project's State Profiles are designed to provide a comprehensive overview of noteworthy State and local initiatives across the country. Inclusion of an initiative in the Profiles does not represent an endorsement of a particular policy or practice.